

Introduction to IPUMS-Time Use

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What is IPUMS-Time Use?

- IPUMS stands for: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series
 - However, it is now just “IPUMS”
 - Developed and archived at the University of Minnesota
 - Originally contained census data for the U.S. and other nations
 - Now has time use data in a similar web-based system
- The IPUMS-Time Use Project enables high-quality demographic research by integrating, documenting, and disseminating event-level data describing how people spend time. By providing access to a broad array of harmonized data in one system, the infrastructure dramatically reduces the cost of research on time use, minimizes the potential for user error, and improves the reproducibility of research findings.

Three Data Bases

- IPUMS-Time Use consists of three integrated databases: the American Time Use Survey (ATUS-X), the American Heritage Time Use Study (AHTUS-X), and the Multinational Time Use Study (MTUS-X). Researchers can access and analyze time diary data through a powerful web-based interface that makes customized, easy-to-use data extracts and enables the creation of measures of time use in user-defined activity aggregations.
- So Far:
- American Time Use Survey Extract Builder
- American Heritage Time Use Study Extract Builder
- Multinational Time use Study Extract Builder is NEW



IPUMS

- <https://www.ipums.org/timeuse.html>

MTUS-X

- <https://www.mtusdata.org/mtus/>

Progress Report

- We are in our 9th year.
- At our last conference, 2014, we included only ATUS data from 2003 through 2013, plus some module data (2011 employee leave, well-being (2010, 12), eating and health (2006-08)).
- We now include ATUS data through 2015, plus information collected as part of the Employee Leave Module (2011), the Well-Being Module (2010, 12, 13), the Eating and Health Module (2014), and the added sequence of eldercare questions (starting in 2011).

Time Line

- We first released ATUS-X in late 2008.
- In October 2015 we released the AHTUS-X system for accessing harmonized historical US data.
- The American Heritage Time Use Study, a database of national time-diary samples collected over six decades, includes harmonized background, activity, location, mode of transport and who else was present variables.

AHTUS-X

- 1965-1966 The Multinational Comparative Time-Budget Research Project
- 1975 American's Use of Time: Time Use in Economic and Social Accounts
- 1985 American's Use of Time Project
- 1992-1994 National Human Activity Pattern Survey
- 1998-2001 Family Interaction, Social Capital, and Trends in Time Use Study and National Survey of Parents
- American Time Use Survey 2003-2012

MTUS-X

- Contains harmonized data for the US, the UK, Spain and the Netherlands.
- At its full expansion during the coming year it will also include:
 - Austria
 - Canada
 - Finland
 - France

Each System is Unique

- Each of these three systems has its own unique time diary classification system, from the greatest detail in the ATUS-X (400+), the 92 codes of the AHTUS, and the smallest set in the MTUS (69).

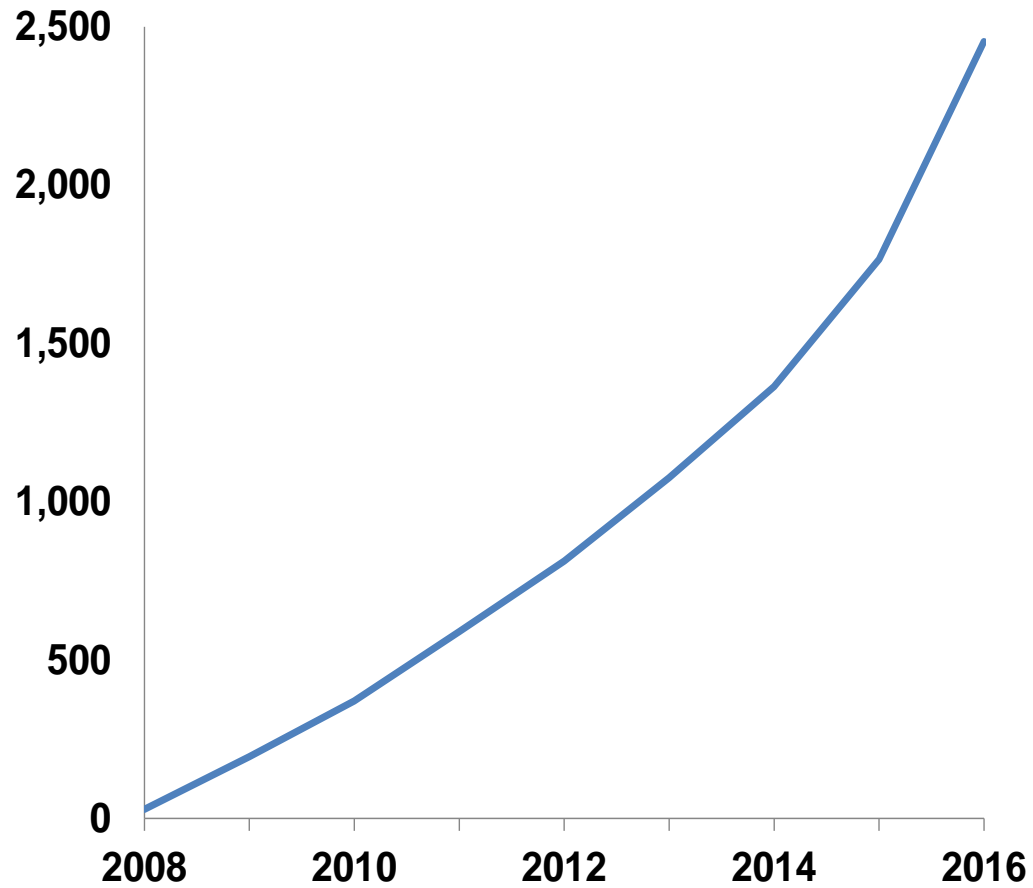
User Support/Dissemination

- We have new “Answerbase” forums that allow researchers to interact, ask and answer specialized questions, and share methods and materials. We have also posted online exercises on using the documentation and making and analyzing a data extract.
- In the past two years alone, we shared information about IPUMS-Time Use at professional conferences of sociologists, demographers, gerontologists, economists, statisticians, survey professionals, climate researchers, policymakers, public health analysts, and geographers. We held one three-day, in-depth training workshop oriented toward scholars new to time use research at the University of Maryland in June 2014, and a second such workshop was held in June 2016. Sessions on the use of the IPUMS-Time Use system and posters for this project have been included at the International Association for Time Use Research conferences held in Japan in 2012, Brazil in 2013, Finland in 2014, Turkey in 2015, and the Republic of Korea in 2016. Training sessions on how to use this project have been included in pre- and post-event workshops associated with each of these conferences.

Our Evaluation

- We have seen explosive growth of IPUMS-Time Use. Figure 1 shows the number of investigators who have registered to use our data access tools.

**Figure 1. Number of Registered Investigators:
IPUMS Time Use**



- The first version of ATUS-X was released in late 2008, and by the time of our last competing continuation proposal in 2011, we had 721 users.
- Over the past four years, the number of users has grown dramatically, especially since the release of AHTUS-X in late 2015. Today IPUMS-Time Use has close to 2,500 users. These users have created over 10,000 customized datasets including 120,000 user-defined measures of time use. Our bibliography currently lists over 250 studies that have used IPUMS-Time Use, including approximately 100 peer-reviewed articles, 14 PhD Dissertations, and 150 working papers and conference presentations. Many IPUMS-Time Use publications appeared in top venues for social and economic research, including Demography, American Sociological Review, and American Economic Review.

How can you be involved?

- We love it when you report your publications from analyses of the data and we include those publications in our bibliography. So when you receive an e-mail or just anytime you have a time use publication, please send it along to us. This is very important to keep the project going.
- Please cite our archives in your references.
 - <https://www.atusdata.org/atus/citation.shtml>
- We note increased interest in time use research around the globe and hope that you will (begin to and) continue to be active in this field in the future.